



HIKING

FOREST SERVICE

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF
AGRICULTURE

ROCKY MOUNTAIN REGION

NATIONAL FOREST – San Juan
RANGER DISTRICT - Columbine

Date: February 2003



RED CREEK TRAIL #726

Length: 3.5miles (5.6 km.)

Use: Medium

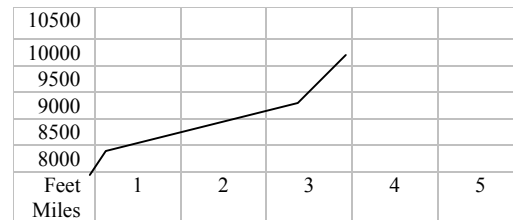
Difficulty: Most difficult
USGS Map (s) Rules Hill and
Lemon Reservoir

Starting Elevation: 8,000'
End of dirt Road, Access #1

Ending Elevation: 9,800'
Junction with Missionary Ridge Trail

Recommended Season

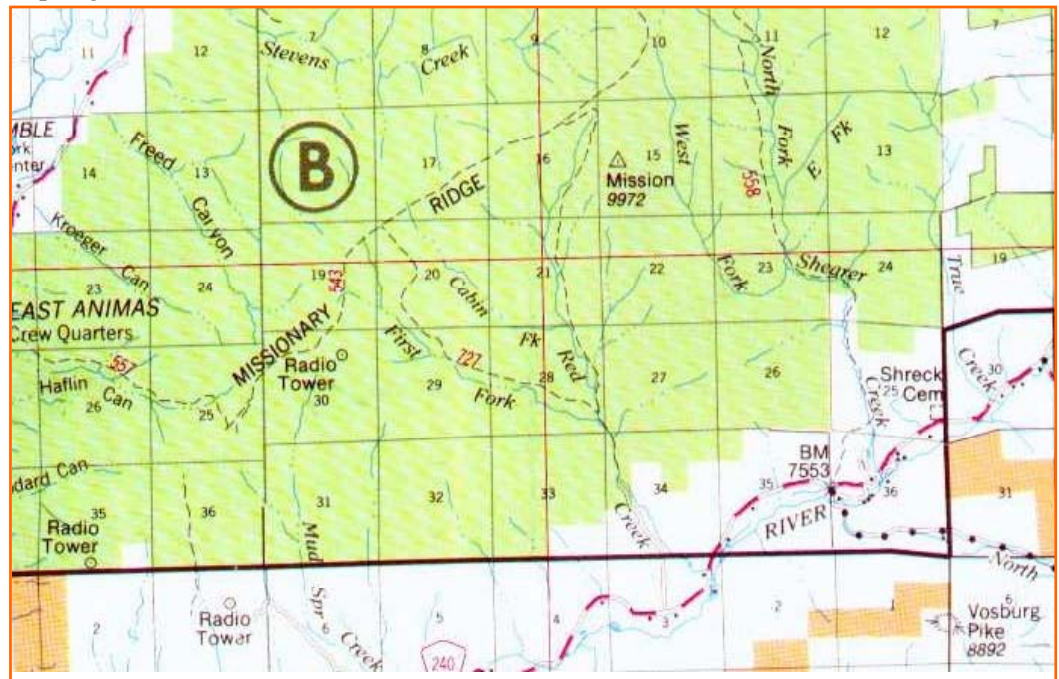
Spring Summer Fall Winter



Recommended Season: Spring/Summer/Fall/Winter

Access # 1: Follow Florida Road 8 miles east and turn north at Colvig Silver Camp. Go past the camp, over the cattle guard, and follow the dirt road approx. 1½ miles to the trailhead, which is at the end of this road. Strong 2WD or 4WD with good clearance may be needed for the last portion of the dirt road.

Access # 2 : Via the Missionary Ridge Trail. Please refer to the description of this trail for a complete listing of access points to the Red Creek Trail.



Attractions & Considerations : Like the First Fork Trail, this trail provides good hiking in the late spring through mid-fall. The trail stays next to the stream most of the way up, in the shade of big fir, spruce, and aspen trees. The trail gradually climbs the first 2½ miles and then goes up a series of switchbacks, and meets up with the Missionary Ridge Trail. As with nearly all water in the Forest, it is advisable to use a filter to prevent problems with Giardia. Fall colors on this trail are spectacular and sightings of large game animals such as elk and mule deer are not uncommon. An overnight loop trip using the Missionary Ridge Trail and First Fork Trail is possible.

Scan of the San Juan National Forest Map

Forest Service maps and other publications available at the Public Lands Center in the Durango Tech Center, ½ mile west of Durango off Highway 160, or by calling (970)-247-4874.
www.sjma.org